Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for protecting a device against damage resulting from an electrical power fault in a double end exposed system, wherein the device is positioned in a copper loop in a telecommunication network, the method comprising:

detecting a current in the copper loop in the double end exposed system;

comparing the sensed current with a threshold current associated with the device;

diverting the current flow from the device to an over voltage suppressor if the value of the sensed current is greater than the value of the threshold current using an over current detector coupled to the copper loop, the over current detector comprising a comparator and an amplifier; and

limiting an electrical power fault voltage that is exposed to the device using the over voltage suppressor.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein detecting the current comprises sensing the current across a resistor coupled to the copper loop.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein an output of the amplifier is coupled to an input of the comparator.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the electrical power fault includes lightning exposure.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the electrical power fault includes an electrical power surge.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the device comprises a micro electrical-mechanical system (MEMS).

7. (Original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising protecting the device against voltage pulses using the over voltage suppressor.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising protecting the device against current pulses using the over current detector.

Claims 9-19 (Cancelled).